

## A rare pathognomonic sign of extracranial vertebral dissection

Rached Hamza, MD,<sup>a</sup> Pierre Abraham, MD, PhD,<sup>a,b</sup> Jildaz Caroff, MD,<sup>c</sup> and Guillaume Mahe, MD, PhD,<sup>a,b</sup>  
Angers, France

A 29-year-old woman experienced blurred vision, followed by a 15-minute left lateral hemianopsia. Three days later, a new episode of blurred vision occurred, but this time, it was followed by a 30-minute right lateral hemianopsia that was accompanied by vertigo, dizziness, and decreased sensation in her left hand. Cervical ultrasound examination was performed at the hospital. Probe passage on the right side of her neck was slightly painful. Between only two transverse processes (C4-C5), the right vertebral artery (segment V2) had an increased diameter and a pathognomonic sign of dissection, a double circulating lumen (A, B mode, and B, color mode, *double arrows*; Video, online only). This spontaneous localized extracranial right vertebral dissection was confirmed by computed tomographic angiography (Cover), which showed an intramural hematoma (C, *arrow*) where the vertebral artery passed through the foramen of the C5 transverse process (C). The patient was given oral anticoagulants. She recovered completely and was symptom free at follow-up 2 months later.

Submitted Apr 26, 2012; accepted Aug 26, 2012.

From the Laboratory of Vascular Investigations<sup>a</sup> and the Department of Radiology,<sup>c</sup> University Hospital; and the LUNAM Université, Biologie Neurovasculaire et Mitochondriale Intégrée (BNMI) - Unité mixte UMR CNRS 6214 / INSERM U1083, Medicine Faculty.<sup>b</sup>

Author conflict of interest: none.

E-mail: [maheguillaume@yahoo.fr](mailto:maheguillaume@yahoo.fr).

Additional material for this article may be found online at [www.jvascsurg.org](http://www.jvascsurg.org).

The editors and reviewers of this article have no relevant financial relationships to disclose per the JVS policy that requires reviewers to decline review of any manuscript for which they may have a conflict of interest.

J Vasc Surg 2013;58:1398

0741-5214/\$36.00

Copyright © 2013 by the Society for Vascular Surgery.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jvs.2012.08.100>

